

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**Call to Order:** Chair Alan Redfield, on February 21, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137  
Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Alan Redfield, Chair (R)  
Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Scott Staffanson, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)  
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)  
Rep. Becky Beard (R)  
Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)  
Rep. John Fleming (D)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Bill Harris (R)  
Rep. Dennis R. Lenz (R)  
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. James O'Hara (R)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Zac Perry (D)  
Rep. Vince Ricci (R)  
Rep. Walt Sales (R)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Peggy Webb (R)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Sydney Kessel, Committee Secretary  
Jason Mohr, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 444, HB 443, HB 410 & HB 523 2/15/2017  
Executive Action: HB 338 & HB 345

**HEARING ON HB 443****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:40 Rep. Bradley Hamlett (D), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 443, Revise distribution of bran inspection fees.

00:02:39 Rep. Lenz, Rep. Staffanson, Rep. Ricci, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway & Rep. Funk joined the meeting

**Proponents' Testimony:** None**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:03:44 Kori Anderson, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA) & Montana Cattle Women

**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:04:45 Chair Redfield  
00:05:10 Rep. Hamlett  
00:06:20 Rep Staffanson  
00:06:49 Rep. Hamlett  
00:07:58 Rep. Hamilton  
00:08:12 Rep. Hamlett  
00:08:52 Chair Redfield

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:09:04 Rep. Hamlett  
  
00:09:24 Chair Redfield  
  
00:09:41 Recess  
00:13:15 Reconvene  
  
00:13:23 Chair Redfield  
  
00:13:36 Recess  
00:26:23 Reconvene with Rep. Windy Boy excused

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 338**

00:26:31 **Motion:** Rep. Staffanson moved that **HB 338 DO PASS.**

00:27:10 **Motion:** Rep. Staffanson moved that **HB 338 BE AMENDED.**  
**EXHIBIT**(agh38a01)

**Discussion:**

00:27:23 Jason Mohr, legislative Service Division (LSD)  
00:28:15 Rep. McKamey

00:28:38 **Vote:** Motion carried 22-1 by voice vote with Rep. Staffanson voting no. Rep. Bennett, Rep. Olsen and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

00:29:02 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Staffanson moved that **HB 338 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bennett, Rep. Olsen and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

### **EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 345**

00:29:50 **Motion:** Rep. Staffanson moved that **HB 345 DO PASS**.

### **Discussion:**

00:30:19 Rep. Hamilton

00:30:32 Chair Redfield

00:31:06 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Bennett, Rep. Olsen and Rep. Windy Boy voted by proxy.

### **HEARING ON HB 444**

### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:31:34 Rep. Ray Shaw (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on HB 444, Redirect Jefferson Slough fund distribution for milfoil mitigation.

### **Proponents' Testimony:**

00:32:36 Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County

00:34:43 John Moodry, Mile High Conservation District (MHCD)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:35:53 Rep. Sales

00:36:24 Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County

00:36:49 Rep. Sales

00:36:56 Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County

00:39:01 Vice Chair Staffanson

00:39:23 Rep. Shaw

00:39:40 Rep. Windy Boy joins meeting

### **Closing by Sponsor:**

00:39:57 Rep. Shaw

**HEARING ON HB 410****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:42:07 Rep. Ray Shaw (R), HD 71, opened the hearing on HB 410, Increase funding for noxious weed trust fund.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:43:00 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

[EXHIBIT\(agh38a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh38a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh38a04\)](#)

00:48:06 Becky Kington, Montana Weed Control Association (MWCA)

00:51:51 Amber Burch, Beaver Head County

00:52:41 John Youngburg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFB)

00:53:18 John Moodry, Butte Silver Bowl Weed District

00:54:41 Amy Adler, Rosebud County

[EXHIBIT\(agh38a05\)](#)

01:01:16 Kori Anderson, Montan Stock Growers Association (MSGA) & Montana Cattle Women

01:02:00 Eric Burgman, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

01:02:39 Pam Converse, Pondera County

01:05:48 Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County

01:06:24 Rep. Bennett joined the meeting

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:**

01:06:31 Libbi Lovshin, Department of Agriculture (DOL)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:07:55 Rep. Fleming

01:08:42 Harold Blattie, MACo

01:09:17 Rep. Sales

01:09:55 Rep. Shaw

01:10:03 Rep. McKamey

01:10:27 Libbi Lovshin, DOL

01:10:35 Rep. McKamey

01:10:44 Libbi Lovshin, DOL

01:10:59 Rep. Windy Boy

01:11:24 Harold Blattie, MACo

01:11:53 Rep. Windy Boy

01:13:03 Becky Kington, MWCA

01:13:23 Rep. Windy Boy

01:14:16 Becky Kington, MWCA

01:14:37 Dave Burch, Department of Agriculture (DOL)

01:16:27 Chair Redfield

01:16:35 Rep. Windy Boy

01:18:06 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
01:18:59 Amy Adler, Rosebud County  
01:19:06 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
01:19:31 Amy Adler, Rosebud County

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:20:31 Rep. Shaw

**HEARING ON HB 523**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:25:03 Rep. Casey Knudsen (R), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 523, Revise archaeological survey requirements.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:27:29 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)  
01:29:21 Kori Anderson, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA) & Montana Cattle Women  
01:30:09 Eric Bergman, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:31:10 Rep. Curdy  
01:31:27 Rep. C. Knudsen  
01:31:39 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
01:31:58 Rep. C. Knudsen  
01:32:36 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
01:32:43 Rep. C. Knudsen  
01:32:56 Rep. Windy Boy  
01:34:26 Rep. Beard  
01:35:04 Rep. C. Knudsen

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:35:28 Rep. C. Knudsen

01:35:50 Chair Redfield

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 01:36:33

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Sydney Kessel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([agh38aad.pdf](#))**